

Madam Speaker, direct foreign investments in the U.S. put more Americans to work and strengthen our manufacturing base. Especially in these tough economic times, I am proud of the strong role that Honda plays in the U.S. and Ohio. I applaud everyone at the company on its distinguished record of manufacturing quality, corporate citizenship, and job creation over the last 30 years.

#### HONORING THE 68TH ANNIVERSARY OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066

#### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2010*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize February 19, 2010 as a day of remembrance, on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of Executive Order 9066.

February 19th will forever be a reminder of the injustice and racial prejudice of World War II internment. This day marks the anniversary of a momentary erosion of America's core principles—a time when over 120,000 Americans were denied their civil rights and imprisoned against their will. At the same time, this anniversary represents our nation's incredible ability to reaffirm our commitment to protecting the freedoms of all Americans.

Following the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, our government succumbed to apprehension and hysteria by targeting many of its own citizens who had nothing to do with the attacks. Executive Order 9066, which was neither justified nor necessary, was issued as a way to assuage growing fears that Japanese-American citizens constituted a threat to national security. This unfortunate decision was shaped by panic and prejudice, and demonstrated that courageous political leadership in this most trying of times was lacking. By commemorating and remembering the failure of our government to uphold the Constitutional rights guaranteed to every American, future generations will hopefully avoid repeating these past mistakes.

Over 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were sent to internment camps and wrongly imprisoned. And though our country's participation in World War II may have ended in triumph, the mistreatment of Japanese, Italian, and German Americans cannot be excused.

In the decades following Executive Order 9066, we have taken several substantial steps to study, remedy, and learn from the negative legacy of the internment while preserving the heritage of those affected. The directive was officially repealed in 1976, and a commission was formed to study the impact of relocation on Japanese Americans. In 2008, we celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act, which was a major step forward in righting the wrongs perpetrated during this difficult period in our nation's history. It is for these reasons that I rise today to call on all Americans to reaffirm our commitment to inalienable, constitutionally-provided rights. This dark period in our history must always be remembered critically, while also appreciated, as a symbol of our ability to acknowledge and rectify mistakes. As I look back to this time in our nation's history and see how far we have come in the intervening years, I see great hope for our future.

#### HONORING COREY ANDERSON FOR WINNING THE HONORING OUR FUTURE LEADERS COMPETITION

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2010*

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a student in my district, Corey Anderson, from Sayville High School.

Corey will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, Corey wrote a personal rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Corey for outstanding academic and personal achievements and congratulate Corey upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

#### COMMENDING THE U.S. NAVY FOR ITS WORK IN HAITI

SPEECH OF

#### HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 2010*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1048 which honors the work of the men and women of the USNS *Comfort* and the United States Navy in the immediate response to those affected by the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010.

The Navy's support is ongoing and to date, the *Comfort* has treated more than 900 Haitians and has performed more than 750 life saving surgeries. Together with her sister ship, the USNS *Mercy*, these vessels serve as ambassadors of good-will during periods of desperation all around the world. Their mission is always a benevolent one and their commitment to areas of strife and devastation highlight the best qualities of what it means to be an American—that we stand by always ready to assist and will never forsake those who are in need.

The earthquake that hit Haiti was the most devastating it has seen in 200 years. Words cannot adequately describe the destruction that took the lives of more than 200,000 people, leveled the capital city, and left thousands of survivors with an uncertain future coupled with worries about hunger, disease, and injuries. Into that morass of suffering we stepped in as a nation to assist the good Haitian people with the USNS *Comfort* and the Navy as part of the vanguard.

The USNS *Comfort* has a storied history. Among its most notable deployments were:

—In 2007 when it embarked on a four month humanitarian assistance mission throughout Latin America and the Caribbean that treated more than 98,000 people in 12 countries. This type of mission highlights the diplomatic role our military plays as it works in concert with the State Department in being ambassadors of good-will.

—In 2005 when *Comfort* responded on our own shores after the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, providing treatment to thousands in the Gulf Coast region. Despite regional devastation, the USNS *Comfort* was

able to provide critical emergency hospital services for residents and first-responders before regular service was restored.

—In 2003, when *Comfort* deployed to war and served as an afloat trauma center for two months during the initial stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

—In 2001, immediately in the aftermath of the 9-11 attacks, when *Comfort* deployed in support of Operation Noble Eagle and provided meals, housing, medical and psychological services to volunteer and relief workers at New York's ground zero.

This is just a sampling of the ship and crew's operational history since *Comfort* was delivered to the Navy in 1987. Untold thousands have benefited from these missions.

Madam Speaker, while many know of *Comfort* and *Mercy's* life-saving work, few realize that these ships almost did not come into the Navy's fleet. USNS *Comfort* and USNS *Mercy* began their lives as oil-tankers a decade before being delivered to the Navy as hospital ships. In fact, they were destined for the scrap yard, if not for the intervention of Congress and specifically the Appropriations Committee. It was a Congressional Initiative that was the catalyst for the birth of the *Mercy* Class Hospital Ships. My colleagues and I on the Appropriations Committee saw a need for this life-saving capability when others sought to scrap these ships. We saw the value in these *Mercy* Class Hospital Ships, to provide a unique capability of being some of the largest U.S. trauma centers with the distinction of having world-wide mobility. Even in the face of airfield closures, destroyed infrastructure, and interrupted communications, as long as the sea is navigable, the USNS *Comfort* and USNS *Mercy* can get there. Once on the scene, a fully crewed ship brings 1,000 medical professionals, a hospital with a full spectrum of surgical and medical services including four X-rays, a CAT scan unit, a dental suite, two oxygen-producing plants, and 5,000 units of blood. The ships have 12 operating rooms and a total bed capacity of up to 1,000. In short, they are fully functional floating hospitals able to give first-rate care where otherwise there would be no treatment options.

Madam Speaker, As we take the time today to honor the men and women who proudly serve this country aboard the USNS *Comfort*, let us also remember the broad scope of compassionate contributions that our servicemen and women are providing around the world in both non-hostile and hostile environments. Often times we forget that our military performs many humanitarian functions that other agencies and nations depend upon, be it logistical support or whole-scale nation-building. Their efforts and their sacrifice go beyond expressions of remorse and tangibly demonstrate our level of commitment to peace and prosperity for all.

#### RECOGNIZING DON ANDERSON

#### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2010*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Boone, Iowa Police Department's Assistant Chief, Mr. Don Anderson, who, with over three decades of law enforcement service to his community, will officially retire on March 1, 2010.